



Coimisiún na hÉireann
um Chearta an Duine
agus Comhionannas
Irish Human Rights and
Equality Commission

**CEDAW
Report
2025**

Public Participation

Issues

Political Participation

Ireland continues to face a gender imbalance in politics. The 40% Gender quota is being undermined in the political system. Only 25% of parliamentary representatives and 21.4% of cabinet ministers, are women, with 32.5% of constituencies having no women representatives at all. Women are only chairing 25% of Oireachtas Committees. There is a lack of transparency around candidate selection, party funding, funding of candidates and equality data on membership and candidates.

Barriers to Political Participation

Childcare, cash, confidence, culture, and candidate selection processes, as well as gendered online hate-speech and political violence, continue to be the main barriers for women entering and remaining in politics.

Public and Private Leadership

Women continue to be under-represented in leadership roles. Ireland is required to fully transpose the EU Directive on Gender Balance on Corporate Boards.

IHREC Recommendations



Increase the gender quota on political party candidate selection for general elections to 50%, extend the gender quota to Seanad and local elections, and take action against the undermining of quotas.



Ensure sufficient remuneration for women local councillors.



Ambitiously transpose the EU Directive on Gender Balance on Corporate Boards by introducing legislative quotas of at least 40% for corporate and State boards.